

Portland Harbor Superfund Site Collaborative Group September 8 Collaborative Group Meeting Summary

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

With optional activities during 4:30 – 5:00 and 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

(v. 10-14-2021)

The Portland Harbor Superfund Site (PHSS or Site) Collaborative Group (Collaborative) met for its third quarterly meeting on September 8th, 2021. The Collaborative is led by Collaborative members and co-convened by the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The Collaborative meeting was held as an online only event and took place from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. with optional activities between 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. It was divided into sections as follows:

- **Optional* Informal Meet & Greet*
- **Opening, Acknowledgements & Community Member Storytelling**
- **Materials, Updates & Introductions**
- **Presentation: Willamette Cove Updates**
 - a. **Part 1: Willamette Cove Updates**
 - b. **Part 2: Working Group Updates**
- **Decision Point: Reach Consensus and Adopt Shared Group Agreements**
- **Optional* Virtual Breakout Rooms*

Opening, Acknowledgements & Community Member Storytelling

Disclaimer on Recording

The Facilitator provided the following disclaimer before recording the meeting:

- Please be aware that when you join the Zoom meeting, your name and/or video may be displayed to other meeting participants and captured in the meeting recording. The meeting sections will be recorded and posted to the [Portland Harbor Collaborative Group YouTube Page](#). By joining the Zoom meeting, you are consenting to the recording and dissemination of the recording as noted above. If you would prefer not to share your name and/or video, please email phcollaborative@triangleassociates.com.

Welcome

The Facilitator welcomed Collaborative members, presenters, and those observing. They reviewed the logistics of using the Zoom platform for members and observers/public.

The Facilitator announced that the Collaborative is always accepting new members and to email phcollaborative@triangleassociates.com if interested in joining.

Acknowledgements & Community Member Storytelling

The Facilitator introduced Wilma Alcock, Portland Harbor Community Coalition, to provide opening remarks to all Collaborative members and observers/public. Ms. Wilma opened the meeting by sharing a poem she wrote in ode to the Willamette River.

She followed by sharing a personal story about her connection to the Site and then Collaborative members had a chance to offer appreciations and say thank you to Ms. Wilma. Her poem and story are available to [view online](#).

Materials, Updates, and Introductions

Materials

The Facilitator provided an overview of the following:

- **Agenda & Materials:** Reviewed the agenda for the meeting and provided instructions on how to access the meeting materials on the shared OneDrive folder. The final agenda and full materials packet are [available online](#).

Collaborative Updates

The Facilitator gave updates on the ongoing outreach Triangle Associates (Triangle) has conducted from March – September 2021 to recruit Collaborative members. They provided an overview of past, current, and planned outreach activities with working parties/performing responsible parties (PRPs), community groups, and the Tribes.

The Facilitator then brought forth a priority request from the Steering Committee and community groups regarding Collaborative Membership stipends and resources. The hope is to identify some financial resources to help support community participation with a goal of acquiring funding by the end of 2021. The funding that is being requested could be used to:

- **Provide stipends:** to members that participate on their own time in these meetings.
- **Close the digital divide:** which is a key piece that Steering Committee members feel strongly about.
- **Cover in-person meeting costs:** such as transportation to/from meetings, food during the meetings and childcare.

The Facilitator shared next steps, including following up with resource agency members, PRPs, Steering Committee members, and anyone else that might have thoughts or ideas on how to support this ask.

Introductions

The Facilitator led a round of introductions for Collaborative members. Returning members were asked to share their name and affiliation in the chat. New members were asked to verbally introduce themselves and share 1) their name/affiliation, and 2) their

motivation or passion for being a member of the group. Please see Attachment A at the end of this document for a list of meeting attendees.

Presentation: Willamette Cove Updates

Part 1: Willamette Cove Updates

The Facilitator introduced Josh Bale, GSI Solutions, Dwight Leisle, Port of Portland, and Jessica Terlikowski, City of Portland.

Josh kicked off the presentation using a map image to provide an overview of the project area, including approximate capping, and dredging extent as defined by the record of decision (ROD).

Upland Updates

Dwight continued to explain the difference between in-water and upland work at Willamette Cove. EPA has oversight of the in-water work and the performing parties include the City, State, and the Port. DEQ has oversight of the upland work and the performing parties include Metro and the Port. Dwight shared that the ROD for the upland work was completed on March 31, 2021 and currently the pre-design investigation (PDI) work plan is in progress. The goal is to complete the upland RD at about the same time as the in-water RD in early 2024 so remedial action can be implemented in parallel.

In-Water Remedial Design Updates

Josh provided a refresher on what happens during the RD process, including steps such as data collection, monitoring, engineering analysis, community input, etc.

In terms of the Pre-Design timeline, the in-water PDI work plan was completed, implemented, and is currently in the Data Evaluation Report phase. In terms of the Remedial Design timeline, the Basis of Design report is currently in progress. Josh shared points along the timeline where public involvement is incorporated.

Josh shared the major decisions/considerations that are upcoming in 30% design, including transportation options, integration with upland designs, future site uses, among others.

Community Engagement Updates

Jessica presented on how the community has been involved to date with Willamette Cove work, including involvement in the contracting process and through community input workshops.

Jessica highlighted what the community workshops brought to the forefront related to design considerations for future uses and in regard to cleanup material transport.

She shared the upcoming in-water topics for engagement, encouraged attendees to join the Willamette Cove Working Group, and to contact her at Jessica.terlikowski@portlandoregon.org for more information.

The Facilitator welcomed Collaborative members to ask the presenters questions for the Q&A portion of the presentation. The full presentation is [available to view online](#).

Part 2: Working Group Updates

The Facilitator introduced Jim McKenna, Oregon Governor's Office, to provide a background on the Willamette Cove Working Group. Jim expressed his gratitude for the Collaborative Group members and those observing the meeting. He shared a historical picture of Willamette Cove depicting a dry dock, sawmill, and other industry activities along the project area before 1953.

Jim shared the evolution of the Willamette Cove Round Table to the current Willamette Cove Working Group. The Roundtable grew out of community input and focused on the in-water remedial design with the State, City and Port of Portland. As time went on, community members requested to combine Willamette Cove in-water and upland (performed by Metro and the Port) community engagement efforts and meetings to create an overarching structure and reduce burden on community members' time.

Jim introduced Paul Slyman, Metro, to share the purpose of the Willamette Cove Working Group, which is to:

- Focus on remedial design (RD) processes for in-water and uplands.
- Provide a consolidated process and opportunities for public involvement in both the in-water and upland RD processes.
- Facilitate environmental justice and accountability in the RD and cleanup process.
- Provide forum for discussing and development of community benefit tools specific to Willamette Cove parallel to harbor-wide community Collaborative discussions.

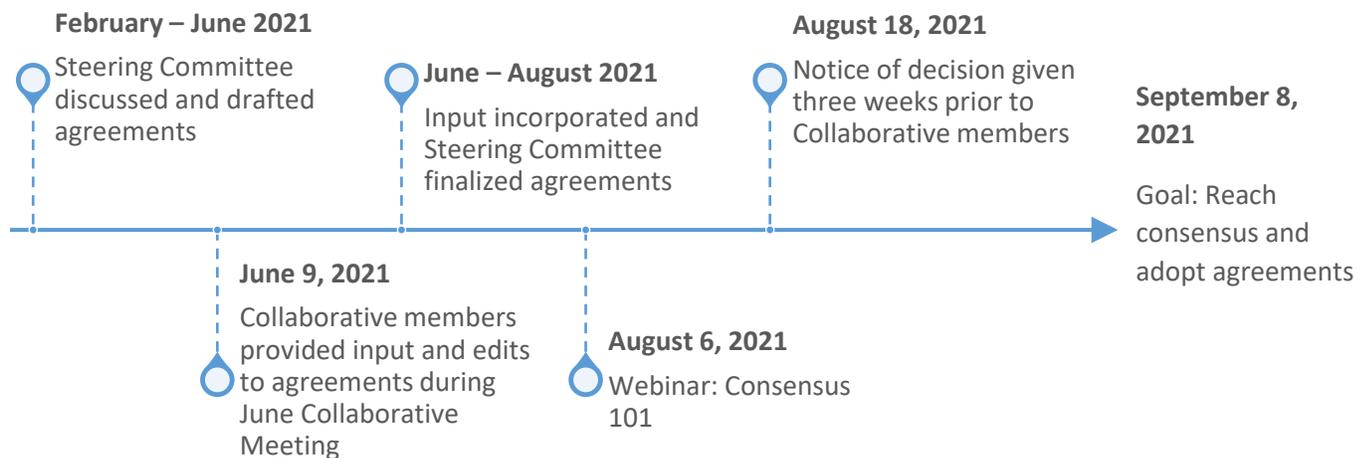
Alexander Lopez, PHCC, provided an overview of the Executive Steering Committee's functions and goals. He emphasized that the Executive Committee is seeking additional community members, specifically Black, indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) communities with historical or current connections to the river, to ensure broad-based representation.

The Facilitator welcomed Collaborative members to ask the presenters questions for the Q&A portion of the presentation. The full presentation is [available to view online](#).

Decision Point: Reach Consensus and Adopt Shared Group Agreements

The Facilitator introduced the concept of Shared Group Agreements (agreements), how they will be used in the Collaborative Group setting, and why they are important. The

Facilitator reviewed the overall timeline of how the agreements came to be. The goal during the September 8 Collaborative meeting was for Collaborative members to reach consensus and adopt the agreements. Please see timeline below.



The Facilitator explained how consensus would be used and then walked Collaborative members through the process. Collaborative members took a poll and unanimously supported the proposed agreements. To see the full process and the adopted Shared Group Agreements, please see Attachment B.

Wrap Up and Reminders

The Facilitator concluded the meeting by thanking presenters, Collaborative members and observers/public for their participation and thoughtful questions. The Facilitator reminded participants of important meeting dates, including **the next quarterly Collaborative Group meeting on Wednesday, December 8th, 2021.**

The meeting officially adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The Facilitator explained the logistics of using the Zoom platform to participate in the *optional* breakout rooms.

***Optional* Virtual Breakout Rooms**

The three breakout rooms offered were focused on the following topics:

- **Superfund 101** with Laura Knudsen (EPA), Lauren Wirtis (DEQ), and Lucila Gambino (Triangle)
- **General Site and Overall Project Area Updates, Highlight on Cathedral Park Project Area** with Caleb Shaffer (EPA), Josie Clark (EPA), Sarah Greenfield (DEQ), and Olivia Smith (Triangle)
- **Willamette Cove Updates Continued** with Josh Bale (GSI Solutions), Dwight Leisle (Port of Portland), Jessica Terlikowski (City of Portland), Jim McKenna (Oregon Governor’s Office), Alex Lopez (PHCC), and Annie Kilburg

Smith (Triangle).

The optional breakout rooms portion of the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Attachment A: Collaborative Meeting Attendees

A total of 105 people attended the meeting including Collaborative Group members, EPA and DEQ staff, facilitators, and observers.

Collaborative Group Members

Alexander Lopez, Portland Harbor Community Coalition
Amyl Freeberg, Willamette River Advocacy Group
Barbara Quinn, Friends of Baltimore Woods
Beth Appert, Multnomah County
Bob Sallinger, Audubon Society of Portland
Cassie Cohen, Portland Harbor Community Coalition
Charlotte MacDonald, Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods
Cherice Bock, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
Courtney Fultineer, Oregon Health Authority
Darise Weller, Linnton Neighborhood Association
Debbie Aiona, League of Women Voters
Debbie Silva, EVRAZ. Inc
Doug Larson, Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group
Elizabeth Kennedy Wong, Port of Portland
Erin Cooper
Jessica Terlikowski, City of Portland
Jim McKenna, State of Oregon
John Marshall, Sellwood Resident
Katy Weil, Metro
Laura Feldman, Occupy St. Johns
Mamelang Memela, Portland Harbor Community Coalition and Braided Rivers Campaign
Marion McNamara, League of Women Voters
Mark Whitcomb, Willamette River Advocacy Group
Mary Jaron Kelly, North Portland Neighborhood Services
Mat Cusma, Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc
Mila Repa Franzoni, Village Coalition
Ranfis Villatoro, Blue Green Alliance
Sarah Taylor, Braided Rivers Campaign and Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group
Tom Karwaki, University Park Neighborhood Association

EPA

Caleb Shaffer, Portland Harbor Team Lead
Laura Knudsen, Community Involvement Coordinator
Madi Novak, Remedial Project Manager
Benjamin Leake, Remedial Project Manager
Richard Francis, Remedial Project Manager
Hunter Young, Remedial Project Manager
Eva DeMaria, Remedial Project Manager
Josie Clark, Remedial Project Manager

DEQ

Lauren Wirtis, DEQ Communications
Sarah Greenfield, In-Water Coordinator

Dave Lacey, Source Control Coordinator

Triangle

Annie Kilburg Smith, Director

Lucila Gambino, Associate

Pauline Mogilvesky, Project Associate

Olivia Smith, Associate

How will we use Consensus today?



This meeting is being recorded and sections will be posted to the Portland Harbor Collaborative YouTube Page.

Adopted SharedGroup Agreements

1. **Participate!** Be present, encourage each person to participate in their own way, and recognize that people have different levels of comfort with sharing.
2. **Take space, make space.** Listeners: Take space as your contributions are very welcome. More talkative people: Be mindful and take a breath before speaking.
3. **Listen to understand, not to respond.** If you do not agree or are uncertain about a comment, ask a question to explore areas of uncertainty and listen respectfully.
4. **Address the idea, not the person.** Treat each other with respect and dignity.
5. **Cultivate a brave space.** Encourage dialogue, celebrate difference, lean into discomfort, and hold each person accountable to do the work of sharing lived experiences in a productive and creative way.
6. **Be willing to learn and grow together .** Identify where learning edges are and be willing to grapple with challenging ideas to gain deeper understanding of topics .
7. **Be mindful of systems of oppression that affect everyone.** Have awareness and be open to discussing how your social group memberships/identities (race, class, gender, dis/ability status, power dynamics etc.) impacts you and others to participate.
8. **Understand words affect others and speak with care .** If you learn that something you have said was disrespectful or exclusive, listen carefully and try to acknowledge that perspective in the future.
9. **Check-in with each other and the facilitation team.** Help stick to schedule and on agenda or negotiate alternative timeframes to discuss as this will encourage cohesion and building rapport among the group .
10. **Practice self-care.** Take care and advocate for your needs (drink water, stretch, bio breaks, etc.).

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